

Easement

Inventory Number: CE-758
Center Schoolhouse
Cecil County, MD
C. Mazurek
June 1998
Section 7.1

Addendum

The Center Schoolhouse is located in Cecil County, within the Fair Hill N.R.M.A., and on the Management Area dirt access road. It is situated on a slight rise of a hill to the west of Big Elk Creek.

The Schoolhouse has been partially restored by the Department of Natural Resource's division of Engineering and Construction, and the Maryland Conservation Corp. Repair work was completed on the stonework and a new roof of shingle shakes was added. Much of the overgrown vegetation near the foundation was removed to protect the structural integrity of the School.

PA
VILLE
PENNSYLVANIA
MARYLAND

5- MASON

AND

4- DIXON

CHESTER CO
CECIL CO
LINE

Flint Hill Ch

Christina

East

PEN
MA

CENTER
SCHOOLHOUSE
CE-758

CREEK

374 BM Sharpes Cem

Fair Hill

Fair Hill Race Track

River

Appleton

Big Elk Chapel

Andora

NEWARK WEST
DNR 98 MAP #5



A Historic Preservation
Project in Partnership
with

Department of Natural Resources
ENG. & CONST. / M.C.C.
and

Governor William Donald Schaefer
and the citizens of Maryland

See how the
historic site is being
restored.



CE-758

SCHOOLHOUSE, FAIR HILL N.R.M.A.

CECIL COUNTY, MD

G. MAZUREK

12/97

DEPT. OF NATURAL RESOURCES

NORTH VIEW

<No. 29> 105 0561 N N N N 19 2



CE-758

SCHOOL HOUSE, FAIR HILL N.R.M.A.

CECIL COUNTY, MD

C. MAZUREK

12/97

DEPT. OF NATURAL RESOURCES

NORTH VIEW

CMC-246008 100 MG 1 N N N 13 2

Easement

SCHOOLHOUSE - RECOMMENDATIONS

CE-758

This structure has long been a favorite of local historians and preservationists. It would be possible to lease the structure for the use of one or another of these groups, with provisions for its restoration. In any case, the school is beginning accelerated deterioration, and requires immediate attention. If the Department of Natural Resources cannot stabilize the structure immediately and plan for its future restoration, steps must be taken to involve the private sector, either by means of a lease agreement as above or through some other agency. Eligible for the National Register.

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Schoolhouse Ruins

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

East of Md. 213, north of Md. 273

CITY, TOWN

Fairhill

☒ VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

4

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Cecil

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT
☒ BUILDING(S)
☐ STRUCTURE
☐ SITE
☐ OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

☒ PUBLIC
☐ PRIVATE
☐ BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

☐ IN PROCESS
☐ BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

☐ OCCUPIED
☒ UNOCCUPIED
☐ WORK IN PROGRESS
ACCESSIBLE
☒ YES: RESTRICTED
☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED
☐ NO

PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE ☐ MUSEUM
☐ COMMERCIAL ☒ PARK
☐ EDUCATIONAL ☐ PRIVATE RESIDENCE
☐ ENTERTAINMENT ☐ RELIGIOUS
☐ GOVERNMENT ☐ SCIENTIFIC
☐ INDUSTRIAL ☐ TRANSPORTATION
☐ MILITARY ☐ OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

State of Maryland, Dept. of Natural Resources Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

Tawes State Office Building

CITY, TOWN

Annapolis,

☐ VICINITY OFSTATE, zip code
Md.**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Liber #:

Folio #:

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

STATE

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION**CONDITION**☐ EXCELLENT☐ GOOD☐ FAIR☒ DETERIORATED☐ RUINS☐ UNEXPOSED**CHECK ONE**☐ UNALTERED☒ ALTERED**CHECK ONE**☒ ORIGINAL SITE☐ MOVED

DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

A one story stone structure under a gable roof, ridge running east-west, with entrance on the west gable end. The western entrance is the only opening on that elevation, with two symmetrically placed openings on each other wall. The stonework is uncoursed rubble. The roof is covered with shakes. The one room interior has deep reveals which curve outward toward the plastered interior walls in a smooth transition. The door and shutters are board and batten.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW				
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)		
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION				

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The structure housed a country school up to about 1915. It appears on the 1877 Atlas as School Number 6. George Johnston, author of A History of Cecil County, taught at the school in 1849 (according to Mr. Lutz).

The reveals of the windows are typical of second-quarter 19th century masonry buildings of the neighborhood.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Lutz, George, Cecil Co. Field Historian, 1977 notes
1877 Atlas of Cecil County

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

N/A

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

N/A

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

J.H.D. Hnedak

1978-79

ORGANIZATION

Maryland Historical Trust

DATE

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Annapolis,

STATE
Md.

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

The Center School

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

On Fair Hill tract east of Route 213

CITY, TOWN

Fair Hill, Elkton

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT

☒ BUILDING(S)

☐ STRUCTURE

☐ SITE

☐ OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

☒ PUBLIC

☐ PRIVATE

☐ BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

☐ IN PROCESS

☐ BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

☐ OCCUPIED

☒ UNOCCUPIED

☐ WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

☒ YES: RESTRICTED

☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED

☐ NO

PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE

☐ COMMERCIAL

☐ EDUCATIONAL

☐ ENTERTAINMENT

☐ GOVERNMENT

☐ INDUSTRIAL

☐ MILITARY

☐ MUSEUM

☐ PARK

☐ PRIVATE RESIDENCE

☐ RELIGIOUS

☐ SCIENTIFIC

☐ TRANSPORTATION

☒ OTHER: abandoned

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Department of Natural Resources

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Annapolis

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Clerk of the Circuit Court

STREET & NUMBER

Cecil County Courthouse

CITY, TOWN

Elkton

STATE

Maryland

Liber #: WAS 347

Folio #: 415

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Center School is a small stone structure on story in height on bay long by two deep. It is built of fieldstone with walls nearly two feet thick. The gable roof has wooden shingles and a plain box cornice. The outside diminsion are roughly 25' by 30'. In the south gable end is the entrance. The door is board and batten shutters. A small stove chimney was located at the north was located at the north gable end. The floor and part of the roof are in sad shape.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES

1849

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This small country school operated through the better part of the 19th century and until 1915. George Johnston, the author of A History of Cecil County taught here in 1849.

The building is a restoration project of the Elk Creeks Preservation Society, Inc.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

George W. Lutz 3rd Field Historian

ORGANIZATION

Cecil Historical Trust, Inc.

DATE

Feb. 1977

STREET & NUMBER

RD2

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Rising Sun

STATE

Maryland

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The Schoolhouse Ruins consist of a stone shell in which the roof and floor is beginning to collapse. The structure is a twenty-four by twenty-eight foot structure. The east gable end has a single entrance. The north and south facades have three windows each. The south facade has two windows. The interior had plastered walls and a plastered ceiling. At the west gable end was an opening for a brick flue for an interior stove. The interior was plainly ornamented with wooden sills to the windows. The windows have double shutters on the exterior. The Schoolhouse Ruins provide an example of mid-nineteenth century schoolhouse construction.

The Schoolhouse Ruins are located on the Fairhill NRMA Access Road, approximately one mile north of Maryland Route 273. This site gently slopes from east to west and has become overgrown with small trees.

The Schoolhouse was constructed of fieldstone with large stone quoins. The main (east) facade was at the upper end of the sloping site and contained a single entrance. The door is a tongue-and-groove door hung with strap hinges with round ends. The north and south facades each have three windows. The windows have plain board frames and had double shutters on the exterior. A similar pair of windows is located on the west gable end. In the gable of the west gable end is brickwork forming a stove flue with a chimney projecting at the peak of the roof. The structure had a common rafter roof covered with wood shingles. The roof has suffered severe deterioration.

The interior of the structure had a very plain design. The walls were plastered right on the stone and whitewashed. Lathe and plaster was applied to the underside of the rafter joist and the ceiling was whitewashed. The windows had wide wood sills and the stonework was rounded on the inside windows to allow more light into the room. On the west wall was a pipe hole near the ceiling for the stove flue.

LEWISVILLE
PENNSYLVANIA
MARYLAND

5 MASON

AND

4 DIXON

CHESTER CO
CECIL CO

3 LINE

DNR- MCCLARY HOUSE
CE-771

DNR-33 SCHOOL HOUSE
CE-7758

BUNTING HOUSE
CE

DNR-28 MCMASTER HOUSE

CE-362

DNR-04 FINLEY BARN

CE-301-A

DNR-03 CARD TAKERS
HOUSE

DNR-02 FINLEY HSE

CE-301

DNR-01 COVERED
BRIDGE CE-238

DNR-77 HOUSE CE-544

DNR-1617 BARN, FEED MILL

DNR-13 HAY LOFT

CE-300-C

DNR-12 SMOKE HOUSE

CE-300-15

DNR-10 BEERS HOUSE

CE-300-

DNR-11 BEERS BARN

CE-300-A

DNR-47 BARN

DNR-45 HOUSE

DNR-50

NEW COVERED BRIDGE

DNR-03, 93, TRACK STRUCTURES

CE-552

DNR-103 CLUP

CE-75

DNR 90-102 TRACK

STRUCTURES CE-552

DNR 51 HOUSE

DNR 53 STABLES

DNR 56 STONE HOUSE CE-363

DNR 64 STONE STABLES CE-366

TYSON HOUSE

RUINS CE-527

GAYLEN HOUSE

RUINS CE-517

COVERED BRIDGE

SITE CE-516

SCOTT MILL DAM

HOUSE RUINS

SCOTT MILL RUIN

CE

NEWARK
WEST
QUAD.

CE-758

5863 III NW
(BAY VIEW)

LITTLE

Providence

Kenmore
Sch

Andora

Big Elk
Chapel

Granites

Cow



CE-758 CENTER SCHOOL



CE-758

CE-758

CENTER SCHOOL

SOUTH ELEVATION

NR FARR HILL

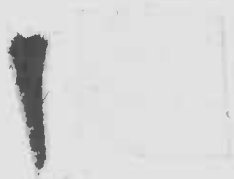
GWL

4



Schoolhouse (Center School)

CE-758





Schoolhouse (Center School)

CE-758